

Municipal Franchise (Ireland) Bill.

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES.

Clause.

1. Short title and application of Act.
 2. Qualification for municipal franchise.
 3. Character of occupation.
 4. Rate payable by instalments.
 5. Occupier, though not primarily liable, may pay rates.
 6. Mode of preparing voters lists.
 7. Repeals and variations.
-

A

B I L L

TO

Amend the Law relating to Municipal Franchise in Ireland. A.D. 1892.

BE it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :

- 5 1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the Municipal Franchise Amendment (Ireland) Act, 1892, and shall apply to Ireland only.

Short title and application of Act.

2. From and after the *passing of this Act* every person, male or female, qualified as follows, shall be entitled to be registered as a voter and to vote at any election of a member or members of any municipal corporation, body of town commissioners, or other governing body of any city, town, or township in Ireland, whether such body be constituted under local or general Act of Parliament, that is to say :

Qualification for municipal franchise.

- 15 (a.) Who is of full age ; and
 (b.) Who on the *twentieth day of July* in any year is, and during the whole of the preceding twelve calendar months has been, an occupier jointly or severally of any house, warehouse, counting-house, shop, or other building within any city, town, or township ; and
 20 (c.) Who shall also during the period of six calendar months next preceding said day have resided within such borough, or within seven statute miles of the same : and
 (d.) Who on or before said *twentieth day of July* shall have
 25 paid or discharged all rates (if any) made by such governing body prior to the preceding *first day of January* which shall have become payable by him in respect of such premises during his occupation thereof.

[Bill 34.]

A

A.D. 1892.

Character of
occupation.

3.—(1.) The said premises so to be occupied need not be the same premises, but may be different premises occupied in immediate succession in the same city, town, or township. For the purposes of this Act the terms house, warehouse, counting-house, shop, or other building, include any part of a house separately occupied for the purposes of residence, or of any trade, business, or profession. 5

(2.) The said distance of seven statute miles shall be computed by the nearest public road or way, by land or water.

Rate payable
by instal-
ments.

4. Where any rate is payable in instalments, payment of any instalment shall, for the purposes of this Act, be deemed a pay- 10
ment of such rate in respect of the period to which the instalment applies.

Occupier,
though not
primarily
liable, may
pay rates.

5. Where the immediate lessor or owner of any such premises as aforesaid is primarily liable to pay the rates payable out of same, and omits or neglects to do so within four months after the making 15
thereof, the occupier of said premises may, at any time after the expiration of such period of four months, pay said rate; and every such occupier so paying such rates may deduct from the rent which he may then or next thereafter be liable to pay in respect of said premises the whole of any rates so paid by him; and if rent to the 20
amount of such rates be not then or do not thereafter become due from such occupier, he shall be entitled to recover such proportion of the said rates as he has thus been unable to deduct from his rent from the said immediate lessor or owner by civil bill.

Mode of
preparing
voters lists.

6.—(1.) The Local Government Board shall, as soon as practicable after the passing of this Act, prescribe by order to be published 25
in the "Dublin Gazette" the modes and forms in which and the times when the town clerks of such governing bodies shall prepare and publish the lists of persons entitled under this Act to vote, the mode and times of making and serving claims to be registered, and 30
of making and serving objections to persons on such lists, and of revising same and bearing claimants and objectors, and of giving notices of unpaid rates. The revising barrister or county court judge charged with the revision of the parliamentary voters list for the division or divisions in which such governing body exercises 35
jurisdiction shall be the authority to revise and settle such lists, and they shall enter on this duty before revising the parliamentary voters lists in every year. Their decisions shall in every case be subject to appeal which said order shall prescribe.

(2.) Such order shall follow as closely as circumstances permit 40
the enactments now governing municipal registration in England and parliamentary registration in Ireland.

(3.) In the area in which rates are collected by the Dublin Collector General of Rates that official shall supply the clerks of the governing bodies with the necessary information for the preparation of the voters lists within such area. A.D. 1892.

- 5 7. After the publication of such order so much of any Act as regulates the qualifications of municipal voters in any city, town, or township, and the mode of claiming to vote and of objecting to voters, and of revising voters lists, and the appointment or payment of municipal assessors, shall stand repealed, and such order shall
10 set out the sections or portions of any Act so repealed, and such order shall be of the same force and effect as if by this Act enacted.
- (2.) Any governing body may apply to the Local Government Board for a variation or alteration of such order as regards the time or mode in which anything is to be done, and thereupon the
15 Local Government Board from time to time may vary such time and manner by a further order to be published in the like manner.
- Repeals and variations.